



DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

December 16, 2019

Senator Alberta Darling
Room 317 East
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Representative John Nygren
Room 309 East
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Senator Darling & Representative Nygren,

We urgently and whole-heartedly support Governor Evers' call for action on homelessness funding and join him in calling for a meeting of the Joint Finance Committee to approve this long-overdue request, originally submitted on July 15, 2019.

There is no reason for delay and continued inaction will lead to unnecessary suffering. This can be alleviated by the Governor's detailed plans to support the Homelessness Prevention Program, State Shelter Subsidy Grants, the Housing Assistance Program, and the creation of grants for Housing Navigation and repairs for affordable housing, among other items.

As we noted in our November 15 letter, this request supports the recommendations of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, created under former Governor Walker and chaired by former Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, for funding of \$3 million GPR annually and \$500,000 PR. With the full Legislature idle until at least the new year, and indications of minimal session days in 2020, Joint Finance Committee action is the most efficient and effective avenue to distribute these much-needed dollars now.

Our November letter came after four months of inaction, which has now stretched to five months of inaction. We ask the committee to convene as called for by Governor Evers, and approve the urgently needed resources supported by advocates, families, citizens across the state, and members of this committee to help those who do not have a place to call home this winter.

Sincerely,

Rep. Evan Goyke
18th Assembly District

Rep. Chris Taylor
76th Assembly District

Sen. LaTonya Johnson
6th Senate District

Sen. Jon Erpenbach
27th Senate District